

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3-6 and 13 are amended for clarification purposes only. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to claims 4-6 because of informalities. Applicant amends claims 4-6 to correct the informalities. Accordingly, Applicant request that the objection to claims 4-6 be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Swoboda (U.S. Patent No. 5,828,824). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

In particular, Applicant asserts that Swoboda does not disclose or suggest a microcomputer, including at least a switch that switches a central processing unit from a user mode to a debugging mode when a forced break is input through a terminal that is not used in the user mode, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 13.

Specifically, Swoboda discloses a method of operating an integrated circuit which has a target system debug interface. Swoboda provides the addition of two additional terminals (nET1 nET0) to the debug interface. See col. 7, lines 52-60. By providing the two additional terminals, Swoboda supports "parallel observation" of internal chip activity not supported by the IEEE standard. For example, the terminals (nET1 nET0) provide a way to export internal device events during operational use. Thus, the terminals (nET1 nET0) are used in the user mode.

In contrast to Applicant's claimed invention, Swoboda does not disclose or suggest a microcomputer, including at least a switch that switches a central processing unit from a user mode to a debugging mode when a forced break is input through a terminal that is not used in

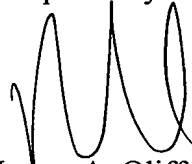
the user mode. Instead, terminals (nET1 nET0) are used for parallel observation of internal chip activity during the user mode not supported by the IEEE standard.

Because Swoboda fails to disclose each and every feature as the claimed invention, Applicant respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-13 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Richard S. Elias
Registration No. 48,806

JAO:RSE/dap

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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